Project Title: Alfalfa fungicide evaluation

Principal Investigator: Bob Stougaard

Project Personnel: Brooke Bohannon

Objective: Compare commercially available fungicide products for disease management and forage quality

Results:

This study was conducted in an alfalfa field that had been established in 2010. The soil was a Creston silt loam (25-50-25/ S-Si-C) with an organic matter content of 4%, a C.E.C of 20, and a pH of 7.5. The study was established as a randomized complete block with three replications. The fungicide treatments include Headline, Endura, Pristine and Priaxor. Treatments were applied April 25 when the crop was about 6 inches in height. Treatments were applied to plot areas measuring 10 by 15 feet in 20 GPA with a backpack sprayer. Treatments were evaluated for height, percent senescence and percent sclerotinia infection on July 4, 2012. First cutting yields were also the same day. An alfalfa subsample was taken from each plot and placed in a drying room for three days. Samples were then analyzed for relative feed value (RFV).

Sclerotinia was observed, but a low infection levels. As a result, no differences were observed among the treatments.

Table 1. Agronomic data for the alfalfa fungicide trial, Kalispell MT 2012

Treatment	Rate FL OZ/A	Yield T/A	RFV	Height inches	Senescence %	Sclerotinia %
Check		3.8	123.33	43	37	13
Headline	6	3.2	128.67	44	34	10
Endura	6.5	3.5	132.33	45	38	12
Pristine	12	3.4	128.67	46	44	4
Priaxor	4	3.7	133.33	46	32	9
Mean		4	129	45	37	10
CV		9.02	6.53	3.90	43.46	105.88
LSD		0.6	15.9	3.3	30.2	19.1
Pr>F		0.2506	0.6426	0.2972	0.8974	0.8570

RFV: relative feed value